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Montana State Board of Health

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HELENA, MONTANA

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MILK.

It is a well known fact; known, not only to the medical profession, but to the lay public as well, that the greatest mortality among the human race occurs in young childhood. It is commonly accepted that the principal cause of death among young children is due to digestive troubles; or to diseases of the alimentary canal. These diseases are spoken of as Enteritis; or as Inflammation of the Bowels; or as "Summer Complaint". A great many of the cases of this disease, (for they are one and the same disease) are due to errors in diet, and to the feeding of impure food; as the food of the young child is almost, if not entirely milk, the error in diet and the impure food, means, an impure milk. Hence, impure milk, or milk improperly fed, is the chief cause of death among children.

I have said that the disease resulting from improper feeding is enteritis, or summer complaint; but there is a matter of greatest importance to the people and to the world, that has not until recently been made public; in fact it has only been demonstrated during the last few years. I refer to the fact that a large number, if not the majority of these cases of enteritis are nothing more nor less than Tuberculosis of the Intestines. The evidence that the majority of cases of Tuberculosis results from infection of the alimentary canal is increasing every day; and this evidence is not based on theory, but on the repeated examination of intestinal tracts, and other evidence indicating the point of entrance into the human system of the germ which causes tuberculosis. This being the fact tuberculosis must enter the system from something we have eaten, and more than this, this something must be a material that is not cooked; for cooking destroys the tubercle germ. The most common article of food that is used uncooked is milk, and, as I have said, milk constitutes practically the entire diet of young children. Hence, in young children at least, tubercular milk must be the principal cause of tuberculosis, and the sole cause of tuberculosis of the intestines among children.

During the last year the death records of our State show that tuberculosis has advanced to the second place in the causes of death in our State; this shows a marked increase in tuberculosis.

And let me state at this time, that enteritis, when given as cause of death, is not classed as tuberculosis; though it is so well demonstrated that a great many, if not the majority of the cases of enteritis are of tubercular origin.

If these statements are true, and any one who cares to take the trouble, or is willing to read the literature on the subject today can verify them, then the people of Montana are being murdered day after day, by being fed tubercular food. I have said, they are being murdered, but this is not a good term. The people of Montana are committing suicide and infanticide, by feeding their children infected meat and milk.

In nearly every State in our union, and in nearly every district in the world, a determined fight is being made against tuberculosis. This fight is conducted along two lines; namely educational and legislative. The most important branch of this work is educational—after the accomplishment of the educational portion, legislation will naturally follow.

Many people in our State think that we have meat and milk inspection, and that the cattle of our dairies are tested for tuberculosis. This is not the case.

Five years ago our Legislature enacted a most efficient meat and milk inspection law, and appropriated money for its enforcement. This work was carried on for two years and as a result it was shown that sixteen percent of the dairy cattle of Silver Bow, Lewis and Clark, Missoula, and Cascade Counties, were tubercular. This was not only shown by the tuberculin test, but these cattle were killed and the post mortem examination showed them to be infected with tuberculosis.

In 1905 a determined effort was made by those directly interested, in a financial way, in the dairies of the State, to secure the abolition of our meat and milk inspection law. This they were unable to do, and finding that they could not get the law repealed, they turned their forces upon the appropriation committee, and thereby prevented the appropriation of money for carrying on this most important work. And while our statute books contain an efficient meat and milk inspection law, it is practically a dead letter, because of the lack of money to secure its enforcement.

This means sixteen percent of the milk consumed by the people of our State comes from tubercular cattle. But this is

not all.

The dairyman milks his cows; the milk from the sixteen percent tubercular cattle is mixed with the milk from the eighty four percent non-tubercular, and thus the entire supply is infected. This milk is delivered to you and is consumed by you and your family in approximately twenty four hours. During these twenty four hours the tubercular germs have not been idle, but have multiplied to a large extent in the milk delivered to you.

The Legislators of our State are ready and willing to give our people what they want. Our cattle and sheep owners want protection for their stock from disease. They go to the legislature and tell the legislators what they want, and they get it. They get about Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) a year, for the protection of the domestic animals of our State.

Our fisherman and hunters do the same thing. They are told that the Treasury of the State will not at this time stand an appropriation sufficient to efficiently protect the fish and game of our State; and realizing this, they say, "Put a special tax upon those who fish and hunt", and this is done, and as a result the protection of fish and game of our State is backed up by approximately Forty Thousand Dolalrs.(\$40,000.00) a year.

The dairy interest go to our legislators and say, "meat and milk inspection has shown that sixteen percent of our cattel are tubercular and has resulted in the killing of this sixteen percent; we demand that this sixteen percent of cattle be protected" and they are protected.

The mothers and fathers of our State stay at home :they don't say to our legislators "our children are of value to us and we demand that they be protected." They are not willing to go before our legislature and say, "that if the funds of the State will not permit the expenditure of sufficient money to protect our children from diseased foods, then put a special tax on each man in the State to provide for this protection." They think that our children are not worth one cent, they are not worth the trouble of going to the State Capitol and calling on our legislature to protect them. This is what they say by their action; they do not mean it.

The trouble is a lack of education along these lines. If these

matters are made plain to the people of our State, our next Legislature will not ask "how little is necessary to secure the protection of our meat and milk"; but will ask, "how much do you need to secure the most perfect protection against infection in this State," and that amount will be secured.

In the majority of our States the most efficient work in this line has been and is being done by the Women's Clubs. These Clubs are acting along educational lines, and as a result of their educational work, ample legislation is being enacted and ample funds provided for the protection of the people against tuberculosis.

I hold in my possession a letter from a prominent club woman, in which the statement is made, "we cannot hope to accomplish much if any thing through the legislature of our State". I hardly agree with her, for we must work through the people. For a few to go to the legislators and tell them what they want will accomplish nothing, but if the clubwomen of our State will take up the work of teaching the people of our State the causes of tuberculosis, and how they may prevent it, there will be no need of a committee going before our legislature; there will be no need of a petition; our legislators will not hesitate, for they will know what our people want, because they will have been told before leaving home, that we "want protection against this dread disease."

I will go further, if the club women of our State will simply study this question for themselves; if they will devote the next six months to the study of this subject, without attempting to teach any one outside of their own club, they will become so interested in the subject that they cannot help talking about it to their husbands and others, and without knowing it, without making any effort, they will teach enough of the people in our State the dangers of impure meat and milk, to secure the desired legisaltion.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES REPORTED FOR THE
MONTH OF JUNE, 1908.

SMALLPOX: Cases of smallpox were reported as follows; Cascade 1 (in Great Falls); Dawson 2; Flathead 25; Gallatin 56 (55 in Bozeman); Lewis and Clark 3 (all in Helena); Meagher 1; Missoula 1 (in Missoula City); Ravalli 6; Rosebud 2; Silver Bow 1 (in Butte); Total 98; total last month 69; total last June 26.

DIPHTHERIA: Cases of diphtheria were reported as follows; Carbon 8; Cascade 9 (all in Great Falls); Custer 3; Deer Lodge 1 (in Anaconda); Flathead 7; Gallatin 1 (in Bozeman); Jefferson 3; Lewis and Clark 3 (2 in Helena); Missoula 8 (4 in Missoula City); Park 2 (both in Livingston); Powell 6; Ravalli 2; Silver Bow 14 (7 in Butte); Sweetgrass 3; Yellowstone 4 (3 in Billings); Total 74, total last month 84; total last June 101.

SCARLATINA: Cases of scarlet fever were reported as follows; Beaverhead 3; Cascade 4; Flathead 1; Gallatin 4; Lewis and Clark 1 (in Helena); Missoula 1 (in Missoula city); Park 1 (in Livingston); Powell 1; Ravalli 5; Silver Bow 70 (57 in Butte); Total 91; total last month 119; total last June 24.

MEASLES: Cases of measles were reported as follows; Dawson 1; Flathead 5; Lewis and Clark 1 (in Helena); Missoula 10 (all in Missoula city); Park 1 (in Livingston); Silver Bow 15 (10 in Butte); Yellowstone 4 (3 in Billings); Total 36; total last month 72; total last June 166.

TYPHOID FEVER: Cases of typhoid fever were reported as follows; Carbon 1; Cascade 1 (in Great Falls); Dawson 5; Lewis and Clark 2 (in Helena, both imported); Missoula 5; Yellowstone 4 (2 in Billings); Total 18; total last month 5; total last June 20.

BIRTHS.

Births reported to the State Board of Health of Montana for June 1908, and comparative birth and death rate in State.

	Excess of Deaths				Excess of Births								
	Deaths				Births								
	Totals												
	Females												
	Males												
Beaverhead	7	3	10	8	2	.....	Meagher	4	2	6	5	1	.....
Broadwater	2	4	6	3	3	.....	Missoula	19	14	33	26	7	.....
Carbon	7	7	14	5	9	.....	Park	11	8	19	10	9	.....
Cascade	22	19	41	17	24	.....	Powell	1	1	2	5	5	.....
Choteau	8	7	15	12	3	.....	Ravalli	6	13	19	14	1	.....
Custer	5	6	11	10	1	.....	Rosebud .....	.....	2	2	5	1	.....
Dawson	4	4	8	5	3	.....	Sanders	2	.....	2	7	23	.....
Deer Lodge	17	8	25	19	6	.....	Silver Bow	58	50	108	85	5	.....
Fergus	2	7	9	4	5	.....	Sweetgrass .....	.....	1	2	2	1	.....
Flathead	13	16	29	23	6	.....	Teton .....	.....	2	2	2	2	.....
Gallatin	10	6	16	8	8	.....	Valley	8	5	13	4	9	.....
Granite .....	.....	1	1	4	1	3	Yellowstone	17	18	35	11	24	.....
Jefferson	3	4	7	6	1	.....	Totals	244	229	473	330	143	.....
Lewis and Clark	11	12	23	27	4	.....							.....
Madison	7	9	16	7	9	.....							.....
Females .....													.....
Males .....													.....

Births reported from Cities of 5,000 or more inhabitants.

Anaconda	17	8	25	19	6	...	Great Falls	17	17	34	13	21	...
Billings	12	13	25	6	19	...	Helena	10	12	22	24	...	2
Bozeman	3	5	8	3	5	...	Livingston	4	7	11	7	4	...
Butte	53	41	94	53	41	...	Missoula	12	9	21	6	15	...

MORTALITY

Deaths Reported to the State Board of Health for the Month of
June 1908, Arranged According to Counties,

	All other Causes	Alcoholism	Suicide	Violence	Acute Intestinal Diseases	Malignant Tumors	Organic Heart Disease	Nephritis	Pneumonia	Whooping-Cough	Meningitis	Typhoid Fever	Scarlet Fever	Measels	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis	Totals
Beaverhead.....																	31
Broadwater.....																	3
Carbon.....																	2
Cascade.....																	2
Chouteau.....																	2
Custer.....																	1
Dawson.....																	1
Deer Lodge.....																	2
Fergus.....																	1
Flathead.....																	2
Gallatin.....																	8
Granite.....																	4
Jefferson.....																	6
Lewis and Clark.....																	27
Madison.....																	7
Meagher.....																	5
Missoula.....																	26
Park.....																	10
Powell.....																	5
Ravalli.....																	14
Rosebud.....																	1
Sanders.....																	7
Silver Bow.....	16																85
Sweet Grass.....	1																2
Teton.....																	2
Valley.....	1																4
Yellowstone.....	1																11
Totals.....	33	18	12	....	3	8	1	23	8	18	8	13	54	3	9	119	330

Deaths per 100,000: 118.00

Annual Death rate per 1,000: 13.16

Deaths reported from cities of 5,000 or more inhabitants

Anaconda	1							2				2		2	12	19
Billings	1	1				1						1			2	6
Bozeman	1								1						1	3
Butte	8		6				6		2		4	1	2	3		21
Great Falls	1										1		1	2	1	13
Helena	4	1							1	1	4	3		2	6	24
Livingston	1								1					1	2	7
Missoula	1								2		1				2	6